

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 A gaming machine, configurable to enable at least one game to be played whose
5 outcome is at least partially based on a random outcome, the gaming machine
comprising:
 - a game cabinet configured to house gaming machine components
configured to allow play of said at least one game and having at least one lockable
external access panel configured to allow access to at least a portion of the inside
10 of said game cabinet when open;
 - at least a first power supply operably connectable to an external power
source, said power supply switchable to an off position when said external access
door is open, where said off position is configured such that at least one game
component is electrically isolated from said first power supply and at least one
15 game component remains electrically connected to said first power supply.
- 2 The gaming machine of claim 1 where said at least one component that remains
electrically connected to said first power supply when switched to said off position
comprises a second power supply, said second power supply having at least one
20 connection point to which game components may be electrically connected.

3 The gaming machine of claim 2 where said second power supply is located in said gaming machine such that said external access panel must be opened to gain access to an internal access panel and said internal access panel must be opened to gain access to said second power supply.

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4 The gaming machine of claim 2 where said second power supply comprises a low voltage power supply operably connected to a main processor board using a connection point.

10 5 The gaming machine of claim 2 where said second power supply further comprises a switch having an off position configured to electrically disconnect all of said connection points on said second power supply.

15 6 The gaming machine of claim 1 where said first power supply further comprises a plurality of power distribution points, each point being operable for electrically connecting to gaming machine components.

20 7 The gaming machine of claim 1 where said first power supply further comprises a plurality of high voltage connection points and a plurality of low voltage connection points, where at least one of said points is electrically disconnected when said switch is in said off position.

8 A method for servicing of a gaming machine, the gaming machine comprising a game cabinet, an external panel movable relative to the game cabinet configured to allow access to at least a portion of the inside of the game cabinet when the external panel is moved, and further comprising gaming machine components 5 configured in said game cabinet to be usable to allow at least one game to be made playable, the game has outcome based at least partially on chance, the method comprising:

providing a switch associated with a first power supply accessible upon moving said external panel;

10 configuring said switch such that upon being put in an off position, at least one of said gaming machine components is electrically disconnected from said first power supply and at least one of said gaming machine components remains electrically connected to said first power supply;

moving said external panel to allow access to said switch;

15 switching said switch to an off position;

servicing at least one gaming machine component that has been electrically disconnected from said first power supply;

leaving all gaming machine components that are still electrically connected to said first power supply without servicing;

20 switching said switch to an on position;

checking operation of said serviced gaming machine component; and

moving said external access panel to a position allowing game play.

9 The method of claim 8 further comprising:

5 providing a second access panel configured to be accessible by service personnel after said external panel has been moved; and,
providing a second switch accessible upon moving said second access panel, said second switch being electrically connected to said first power supply when said switch associated with said first power supply is in an off position and
10 where said second switch comprises at least one connection point enabled to allow electrical connections to at least one gaming machine component and is further configured to have an off position that electrically disconnects said at least one connection point.

15 10 The method of claim 9 where said second switch further comprises a second power supply.

11 The method of claim 10 where said second power supply further comprises a low voltage power supply having a connection point operably connected to a main
20 processor board, and where said switch disconnects said main processor board from said low voltage power supply.

12 The method of claim 8 where said at least one gaming machine component that
is electrically disconnected from said first power supply by said switch being in an
off position further comprises at least one of: a video monitor, reel mechanisms,
5 input buttons, top box lights, main body lights, or candle lights.

13 A gaming machine comprising:

means for allowing at least one game to be played whose outcome is at least
partially based on a random outcome;

10 game cabinet means having thereon an access means, said access means
allowing access to the inside of said game cabinet means and gaming machine
components therein; and

power supply, switching, and distribution means operable to electrically
disconnect a first portion of said distribution means while allowing a second
15 portion of said distribution means to stay electrically connected.

14 The gaming machine of claim 13 where said second portion of said distribution
means further comprises at least one second power supply, said second power
supply having its own distribution means.

15 The gaming machine of claim 14 where said second power supply comprises a low voltage means and an associated distribution means providing power to a main processor board.

5 16 The gaming machine of claim 14 where said second power supply further comprises a switching means allowing electrical disconnection of said low voltage means from its associated distribution means.

17 The gaming machine of claim 13 where said first power supply means further 10 comprises a high voltage means and an associated power distribution means, and a low voltage means and an associated power distribution means.

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